



November 19, 2021

Superintendent's Message: COVID Safety Protocols Survey for Parents, Staff, Secondary Students

Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff and Secondary Students,

As we are near completion of this fall semester, The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) administration and school board want your feedback about the implementation of COVID-19 safety protocols across our district.

This student, parent, and staff input will be used to better understand the school communities' opinions about the safety protocols that are being implemented that are not required, but rather recommended, by the LA County Department of Public Health. A reminder that indoor masking is a requirement of the health department and outside masking, the weekly COVID testing, and COVID screening at the start of school are strong recommendations, but not a requirement by the health department.

We believe that we have been extremely successful with maintaining in-person instruction with minimal positive cases, quarantining and disruptions at our schools, compared to LAUSD and other districts operating with limited standard safety measures in place. Masking indoors and outdoors has nearly eliminated transmission of positive cases while in school. Weekly testing of students and staff have been instrumental in identifying cases quickly and responsively. Confirmed cases have predominantly come from outside of school, such as sports, including practices, games and conditioning activities, playdates and other social gatherings, where safety protocols are not as prevalent, and not from contact in school. Vaccinations of staff and high student vaccination rates of 12-17 years-olds and growing for 5-11 year-olds have contributed to our success.

Please take a few minutes to complete this short survey regarding our COVID safety protocols, including masking, testing and campus screenings. We would also like your opinion about vaccine mandates for students. This information will help inform future decisions regarding implementation of safety protocols and how we address various school events that normally take place during the second semester.

Please submit one form per person by Monday, Nov. 29 at 7 p.m.:

[English](#) [Spanish](#)

We will share results at a future school board meeting.

Thank you for taking a few minutes for this important survey.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ben Drati, Superintendent